



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY

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For Immediate Release

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Programs at Night Offer Adventures in Local Parks

Looking for an affordable family activity on the weekend? There is no excuse to stay inside the first Friday night of the summer when the Fairfax County Park Authority offers a variety of program options. Take the relatives to either Hidden Pond Nature Center for a stream study on fish or visit Lake Accotink Park for a Nature Night Hike on Friday, June 22, 2007.

Several fish populations inhabit Pohick Creek at Hidden Pond. A year-long survey is currently underway on the diverse fish populations within the nature center's boundaries and the stream study gives the community a chance to participate in the survey from 7:30 to 9 p.m.! Participants will learn netting, identification and safe release skills as well as have a rare chance to study the nocturnal residents of Pohick Creek.

Appropriate for children six and older, kids will love this hands-on approach to science in their own backyard. Reservations are required along with a \$4 program fee. The program will cancel for inclement weather. Please call 703-451-9588 or visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/hiddenpond> for more information. Hidden Pond Nature Center is located at 8511 Greeley Blvd. in Springfield.

If the children are more interested in forest creatures, head to Lake Accotink for a night hike exploring the forest's nightlife from 8:30 to 10 p.m. Bats, owls and foxes are among commonly spotted animals on night hikes through the park. Park staff will educate participants on the activities of these nocturnal creatures and help with identification as the group crosses through the wooded terrain.

Dress for a cool summer night, bring flashlights! Lake Accotink is located at 7500 Accotink Park Road in Springfield. Appropriate for children seven and older, the cost is \$5 per adult and \$3 for children under 16 years. Reservations are required. Please call 703-569-0285 or visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/accotink> for more information.

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Fairfax County is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination in all county programs, services and activities and will provide reasonable accommodations upon request. To request special accommodations, call 703-324-8563 or TTY 703-803-3354. Please allow ten working days in advance of events in order to make the necessary arrangements.